## Message Text

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O R 071540Z MAR 77 FM USMISSION NATO TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2040 INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW AMEMBASSY WARSAW

CONFIDENTIAL USNATO 1226

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, CSCE

SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS AND "INTERFERENCE"

REF: WARSAW 1521

1. I WAS IMPRESSED BY AMBASSADOR DAVIES' ARGUMENTATION THAT WE SHOULD STATE SQUARELY THAT HUMAN RIGHTS ARE A LEGITIMATE SUBJECT OF INTERNATIONAL LAW AND DISCOURSE.
IN ADDITION TO THE POINTS MADE BY AMBASSADOR DAVIES, I WOULD NOTE THAT THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT, IN THE SEVENTH PRINCIPLE, FRMLY PUTS THE HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTION ON THE INTERNATIONAL AGENDA.

2. AS AMBASSADOR DAVIES ALSO SUGGESTED, THERE ARE OTHER CONSIDERATIONS AT PLAY, NOTABLY THE EFFECT THAT STRONG PUBLIC STATEMENTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS HAS ON DETENTE AND SPECIFIC EAST-WEST NEGOTIATIONS. THIS POINT WAS MADE IN THE NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE BY CRAIG R. WHITNEY (DATELINE BONN, MARCH 6) AND WE HAVE BEEN HEARING SIMILAR COMMENTS FROM THE ALLIES CONFIDENTIAL

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HERE.

3. I NEVERTHELESS BELIEVE THAT TO SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT ON THE LEGAL ASPECT OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTION WOULD HAVE A SALUTARY EFFECT ON THINKING IN WESTERN CAPITALS. THUS, I RECOMMEND THAT I BE AUTHORIZED TO DRAW ON PARAS 3-6 OF AMBASSADOR DAVIES' CABLE (WITHOUT REFERRING TO SUGGESTED US EFFORTS FOR A COVENANT ON HUMAN RIGHTS) AT THE MARCH 8 PERMREPS LUNCH. SUCH A STATEMENT WOULD BE

PARTICULARLY TIMELY IN VIEW OF THE SCHEDULED MARCH 17 NAC DISCUSSION ON EASTERN EUROPE. REQUEST GUIDANCE. STRAUSZ-HUPE

CONFIDENTIAL

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